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5 January 1951

Lieutenant General Walter Bedell Smith
Director of the Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Smith:

In answer to your recent query pertaining to the status of Reserve personnel now employed by your agency the following information is submitted.

Based upon a directive from Congress and the Secretary of Defense, the Department of the Army is now engaged in formulating a program of separating from the Active Reserve the personnel that will not be available for orders to active duty in case of partial or full mobilization.

Although these plans are not complete, it seems rather certain that most of the Army Reservists now employed as civilians by the Central Intelligence Agency will not be available for orders to active duty at any time. The result will be that this personnel will either be separated from the Reserves or transferred to the Honorary Reserves, if eligible.

Reserve personnel who are separated because of their unavailability may be reappointed in the Organized Reserve Corps providing they are qualified if subsequently released from current employment or status changed by the using agency.

The Central Intelligence Agency, a civilian organization, has now a requirement for certain military personnel. Upon mobilization this requirement undoubtedly will be increased. In case of total mobilization your military requirements will be met from available personnel in the Active Army or by ordering qualified Reservists to active duty. While the requirements from the Central Intelligence Agency for military personnel must be considered along with all others, its great importance makes it certain that it will be given high priority.

I hope the foregoing is helpful and that you understand our position in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

C. E. BYERS
Major General, GSC
Deputy Assistant Chief
of Staff, G-1